Overcharging by taxi and auto drivers in Delhi

943. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that overcharging by taxi and auto drivers in the capital continues unabated, particularly at railway stations and for short distances;

(b) what are the reasons that the Delhi Police has not succeeded in curbing the practice; and

(c) what action Government have taken to check overcharging by taxi and auto drivers in the capital?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) Despite the action taken by Delhi Police and Transport Department of the Government of NCT of Delhi against overcharging and refusal etc. by taxi and auto divers, such instances have come to notice. However, there was a decline in the number of such cases registered by Delhi Police during the year 2005 as compared to those registered in 2004.

(c) the steps taken by Delhi Police to check overcharging and refusal etc. by taxi and auto drivers in the Capital include setting up of Prepaid TSR Booths at Railways Stations, Inter State Bus Terminals and Commercial centers; Pre-paid Taxi Booths at Airport to facilitate commuters and avoid harassment from taxi/auto drivers; setting up of a round the clock "Traffic Helpline" No. 23378888 to register complaints regarding refusal/ overcharging, misbehavior and tempered meters; distribution of pre-paid complaint cards among general public to register complaints; launching of special drives from time to time to discipline TSR/taxi drivers.

Initiative to improve intelligence network

944. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any fresh initiative are being taken by Government to improve the intelligence network in view of the increased threat of terrorist attack;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and